SCIENCE SAYS

Fear not falling space junk, people

PLUS Custom babies? It could be the future

Toronto metro

ATTAWAPISKAT

Indigenous in T.O. respond: 'I have way more hope than the last time this happened'

metroNEWS

Yo... | WEEKEND, APRIL 15-17, 2016 | High 12°C/Low 4°C Sun, sun, sun

'THE RAPTORS HELPED ME BECOME CANADIAN'

From Rwanda to T.O., Metro's own talks hoops — and belonging

The first time I went to a Raptors game at the Air Canada Centre, I couldn't even buy a beer because I didn't yet have a Canadian ID.

Now, when I go to games, I proudly flash my ID, drink a domestic beer (or three) and think to myself, "I'm living the dream."

The fact is, I'd love this team even if they lost as many games this year as the Golden State Warriors have won, or even if beer was banned from ACC — God forbid. More than anything else, the Raptors helped me become a Canadian — and, at the same time, a proud Torontonian. I can't sink a 10-foot jumpshot, but whenever I yell "We The North" I know in my heart that "we" includes me. What a feeling!

Back in 2009 when I moved here from Rwanda, the Raptors were terribly lucky to rack up 30 wins in a season. But I didn't care. They were my key to the city.

I had been following the NBA back home, albeit to a lesser extent than soccer. But, when I went to that first Raptors game, thanks to a good friend who took me along, something clicked right away.

My confidence would skyrocket every time I rocked a Chris Bosh jersey heading to a class at Ryerson. This was before I'd figured out which subway exit leads into Dundas Square. I'd strike up conversation with strangers about hoops before it dawned on me that talking weather was probably the better bet in Toronto, especially when the local teams are losing.

And it isn't just me. I marvel at how many people — many of them not born in Canada — tell me the same story, who've been filled with the same spirit. It's the incredible untold story of the Raptors' rise. It's the spirit exuded by 11-year-old Mohammed, who told me a month after he and his family arrived in Toronto from Syria, that he now prefers basketball to soccer.

RAPTORS START PLAYOFF RUN

Basketball is more than a hobby for me and Mohammed — it's a rallying force, a uniting movement.

So when the Raptors start their post-season run against the Indiana Pacers on Saturday, everything on my schedule has to change. Sleepless nights? Missed appointments? Desperate moments and heartbeats in crunch times? You bet. It's the least I can do for the team that's done so much for me.

More Raps: metroNEWS, metroSPORTS

Metro Toronto reporter Gilbert Ngabo

LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

metro NEWS
Your essential daily news
Weekend, April 15-17, 2016

Wild blueberry industry suffering in Maine due to low value of Canadian dollar. The U.S. government said it will buy up to 13.6 million kg to stabilize prices and supply.

Homes 'not at all affordable'

REAL ESTATE

Construction, bidding wars on the way for buyers: Poll

The vast majority of Torontonians, 89 per cent, believe housing is unaffordable in the city. But 20 per cent of those who rent still plan to put a foot on the property ladder this year.

The findings of a new Forum Research poll suggest that many of those buyers will be looking at new construction and bidding wars, because only seven per cent of the city's homeowners plan to sell.

"Everyone says it's unaffordable, but they're affording it," said Forum president Lorne Bozinoff.

A full 41 per cent of survey respondents said Toronto housing is "not at all affordable." The average selling price for a Toronto area home in March was $688,181, and detached home prices averaged $910,375.

Despite high housing prices, people are "going to scrimp and save and do what they have to do to buy a house. They're saying, 'The prices are too high but I'm planning on paying it anyway,'" Bozinoff said.

About 60 per cent of Torontonians own their homes, with the highest rate of ownership concentrated among older, wealthier residents.

Half of those owners believe their homes are worth between $500,000 and $1 million, and a third consider their homes their retirement savings. That attitude is particularly prevalent among those 45 years and older.

20%

Percentage of renters in Toronto who still plan to buy a home this year, according to a poll.

Sixty-four per cent of homeowners are still making mortgage payments, according to the poll.

Forum Research surveyed 858 residents in an interactive telephone poll on Tuesday. The results are considered accurate within three per cent 19 times out of 20. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

People are "going to scrimp and save and do what they have to do to buy a house," Forum Research Poll President Lorne Bozinoff said. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR

Toronto housing by the numbers

56% Those aged 18 to 34 who consider Toronto homes "not at all affordable"

36% Torontonians aged 18 to 34 who own a home

60% Torontonians aged 35 to 44 who own a home

12% Homeowners who estimated their property's value at between $1 million and $1.5 million

35% Homeowners in Etobicoke who estimate their property's value at $500,000 or less

24% Homeowners aged 65 or older who have a mortgage

56% Homeowners aged 65 or older who consider their home to be a retirement savings

Condo rental prices on the rise

The cost of renting a condo in Toronto climbed almost seven per cent in the first quarter of this year.

Real estate consulting firm Urbanation says average condo rents in Toronto rose to $2.53 per square foot, or $1,891 a month, in the three months ended March 31.

That's up by 6.8 per cent from a year ago.

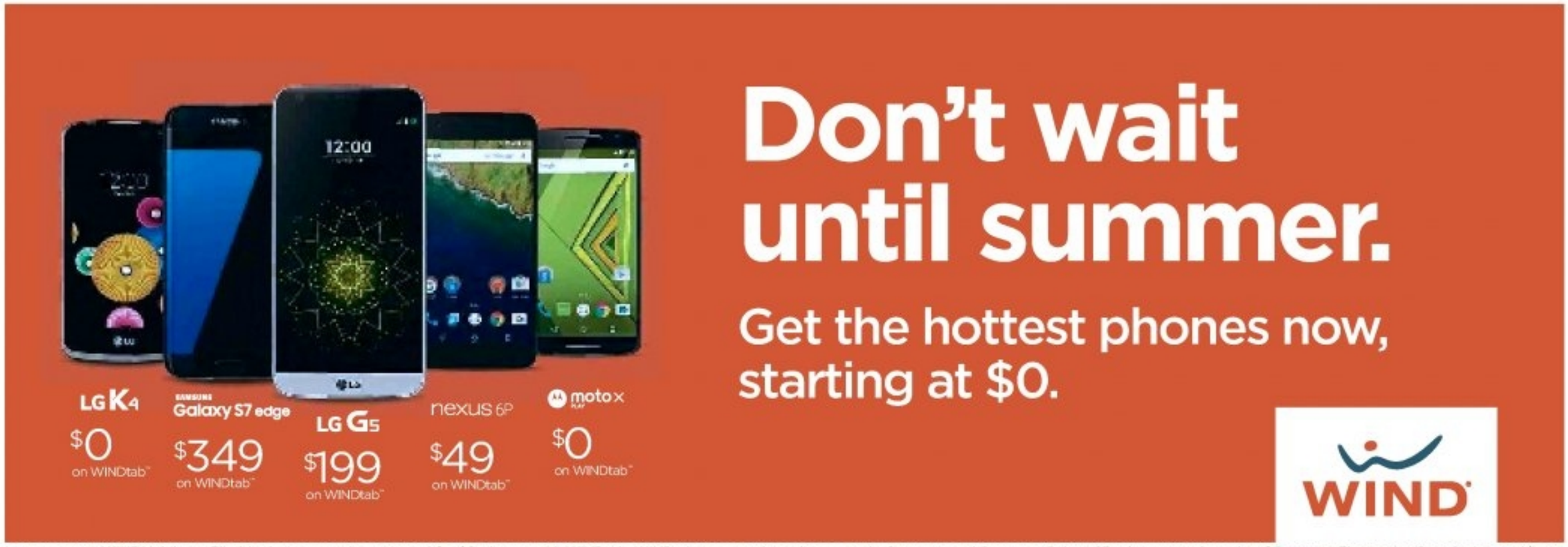
Urbanation's senior vice-president, Shaun Hildebrand, attributes the increase partially to the fact that many would-be buyers are getting priced out of the home ownership market, pushing demand for rental units higher.

Hildebrand says strong economic fundamentals such as employment and population growth also contributed to higher rents.

Meanwhile, the number of applications to build rental-only buildings jumped by 40 per cent in the first three months of the year.

"Even with record numbers of condos coming up for rent by investors, conditions have tightened, supporting increased rental development," Hildebrand said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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T.O. sounds off on Attawapiskat

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

Community sees change in solidarity, new federal tone

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

As they watch the crisis in Attawapiskat unfold, members of Toronto's indigenous community are cautiously optimistic that this time the tragedy will lead to meaningful change.

"I think there's more solidarity from non-indigenous communities right now, and that paired with the new federal government's realistic understanding of the needs of indigenous people means we're in a different place than in the past," said Promise Holmes Skinner, co-ordinator of the Aboriginal Law program at the University of Toronto.

Leaders in the remote Ontario First Nations community declared a state of emergency this week after 11 youth attempted suicide last Saturday.

Ontario Health Minister Eric Hoskins visited Attawapiskat on Wednesday, while members of Idle No More Toronto camped outside the Indigenous Affairs office to protest conditions on northern reserves, including inadequate shelter, contaminated water and a lack of social services.

They are all encouraging signs albeit in the wake of adversity.

"I moved to Toronto for opportunity and to educate myself, but I grew up on a First Nation in Northern Ontario. I've experienced the oppressiveness of the reserve system and of an entire country viewing me as inconvenient," said Sam Mukwa Kloetstra, communications co-ordinator at the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council.

In 2013, Attawapiskat was forced to evacuate after a catastrophic flood.

The incident garnered national attention, but interest in the crisis — and the support needed to remedy it — quickly waned.

However, this time, the outcome may be different.

The recent Liberal budget contained significant support for indigenous communities and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has pledged to end boil water advisories on remote reserves by 2020.

"I have way more hope than the last time this happened," said Laurel Franks, a social work student at UofT and a co-ordinator of an indigenous youth education program in Toronto.

"When it first came to light people were like, 'Is this really happening in Canada?' but the second time they've already had so much attention."

There are other signs the relationship between Canada and its indigenous population is changing.

On Thursday, the Supreme Court ruled some 600,000 Métis and non-status indigenous people unaffiliated with specific reserves can access federal support and potentially pursue land claims.

The same day, the federal government settled a longstanding land claim dispute with the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation in Ontario.

The agreement returned Camp Ipperwash, a former military base built on land appropriated in 1942, to the First Nation.

"As an indigenous person, I feel helpless because I don't have the means to make a big enough difference."
Laurel Franks

CONTRIBUTED

"I hope Canada fixes the horrific mess that it's made. Real resources need to go towards making sure this isn't something that keeps happening."
Promise Holmes Skinner

CONTRIBUTED

"Idle No More and Black Lives Matter are examples that our nation is moving in the right direction. People are speaking up because their ancestors were forced to be silent."
Sam Mukwa

CONTRIBUTED

Survey says: Metro Toronto has over 600K weekday readers

If you're seeing that stack of newspapers disappear quickly from the familiar green boxes in the mornings, it's because Metro Toronto is the second-most read newspaper in the city every Monday to Friday, according to a readership survey released by Vividata on Thursday.

Metro Toronto now has 621,000 weekday readers — more than 24 Hours' 491,000, the Toronto Sun's 489,000, the Globe and Mail's 396,000 and the National Post's 200,000.

The Toronto Star, Metro's sister paper, owns the market with, on average, more than 1 million weekday readers.

Metro — which publishes newspapers in Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver — is also the most-read weekday newspaper in the country.

With more than 1.6-million weekday readers in seven major cities, Metro English Canada is slightly up on the Toronto Star and well ahead of the Globe and Mail, which has 1.2-million readers.

When print and digital results are combined, Metro is in fourth place with more than 1.9-million readers.

Cathrin Bradbury, Metro's editor-in-chief, said she is proud of the quality of the content produced by newsrooms stretching from Halifax to Vancouver.

"The Metro brand — young, urban, diverse, professional — is stronger than it's ever been. That's in large part because the Metro staff who produce terrific local content every day, for our seven city newspapers across Canada, are exactly like the audience they serve: Hard-working young people who are passionately committed to improving the cites where they live. This study is a much-deserved nod to their work, and to the joy our readers take in it."

A testament to Metro's popularity is its position as the second-most read newspaper in Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax and Winnipeg.

Sandy MacLeod, Metro's chief operating officer, said the healthy numbers are good for business, too.

"This readership study confirms the solid position of Metro as a national media brand," MacLeod said. "Our strength in the key demographic of well-educated 25- to 54-year-old adults is attractive to Canadian advertisers who seek to reach this important audience."

In addition to the newspaper, Metro is on various digital platforms, including desktop, mobile web and has news apps for Android and the iPhone. METRO

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Jess Morton, left, battles Ajay Fry during a lightsaber battle last year. But it won't happen again, after Lucasfilm sent a cease-and-desist letter to organizers. TODD KOROL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

That's no lightsaber — that's a cat blade

LEGAL ACTION

Event rebrands itself following studio's threat to use the force

The "force" won't be with Toronto's lightsaber duelists any longer. Nor will the "Jedi," the "Sith" or any other trademarked Star Wars phrases.

The event's organizers dropped all references to the beloved sci-fi franchise after receiving a cease-and-desist letter from Lucasfilm's lawyers, they said on Thursday.

Newmindspace, the organization behind the popular lightsaber battles in Toronto and cities across the U.S., got the stern letter shortly after attempting to set a record for the world's largest lightsaber battle, company co-founder Kevin Bracken said.

Neither Lucasfilm nor the Californian law firm representing the film company responded to requests for comment.

Bracken, who started Newmindspace with Lori Kufner, says the threat of a multimillion-dollar lawsuit kept him up at night.

"I'm just getting used to not feeling anxious again," he said in an interview. "A lawsuit from anyone can really ruin your life."

They reached a settlement with Lucasfilm recently, he said. They not only agreed to ditch the phrase "Light Sabers" but also more generic expressions such as "Light Swords" and "Light Battles."

Bracken and Kufner have hosted lightsaber play fights in six cities across the U.S. and Canada, including Toronto, New York and Los Angeles, over the past eight years. They say a dollar from the proceeds of each reservation goes to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Overall, they claim to have raised over $2,500 for the kids' charity.

To avoid being sued by Lucasfilm, they rebranded the lightsaber events as the "Cats in Space Tour."

Some legal experts say Lucasfilm was entirely within its rights to police its brand in this case.

"They have no choice," said intellectual property lawyer Toba Cooper. "If they allow this event to use lightsaber and another event comes out and does the same, they have no foothold."

However, she was surprised to see the company stake a claim to more general phrases like "Light Battle" in their agreement, since intellectual-property protection doesn't cover ideas.

"But that said ... when you're up against big corporations, you have to do what seems right with the threat of potential litigation looming." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Gun deaths have doubled over same time last year

Fatal shootings in Toronto have doubled in 2016 compared with last year's number at this point in the year. But experts caution these early statistics don't say much about the state of Toronto's streets.

The total of 13 includes two overnight shootings in the city: one man killed at Yonge and Bloor streets and another at Vanevery Street and Royal York Road. At this point in 2015, the city had seen six fatal shootings. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EXTREMISM

Daesh urges death for Toronto imam

Just days after celebrating cultural bridges, a Toronto imam has been targeted in a Daesh hit list.

The self-declared Islamic State called out Shaykh Abdullah Hakim Quick along with other Muslims in the West, urging followers to kill them for speaking out against the group and betraying their interpretation of Islam.

Quick works with the Canadian Council of Imams, which hosted its first annual dinner on Monday night, honouring political leaders and community members.

"It was a really good vibration that came out of that meeting, a lot of unity between people of different faiths," said Quick. "So here comes the devil, as we would say, screaming out against us the next day."

Quick said he has contacted law enforcement and is taking precautions but he will not be intimidated. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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AIR CANADA CENTRE SPONSORED STREET ART Local graffiti artist Peru completes a spray painted Raptors mural outside the Air Canada Centre, Thursday. Similar murals commissioned by local graffiti artists will be popping up in six cities across Canada to celebrate the Raptors third straight trip to the post-season. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Raptors' success means ticket hike

NBA

Toronto one of priciest cities in league

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The Toronto Raptors have spent a lot of energy putting together a season with the most wins in franchise history.

Now, it looks like fans will have to shed a lot of cash to watch the team's playoff run in person on home hardwood. Seats for games at the Air Canada Centre will cost, on average, $258 US on the resell market, according to numbers crunched by Vivid Seats.

They are the most expensive in the NBA Eastern Conference, and the third most expensive in the league — coming in behind the defending champion Golden State Warriors and the San Antonio Spurs.

The cheapest ticket to Saturday's playoff opener is $95. The most expensive come in at $1,406 for courtside and $14,234 for a spot in the luxury suite, according to Vivid Seats.

But, take the Raptors out of Toronto and the price takes a dip.

Tickets to Game 3 of the opening series — which takes the Raptors to Indianapolis on April 21 — are expected to range from $27 to $503, according to resellers.

It's the third straight year Toronto has fared among the most expensive markets in which to catch a playoff game. In 2014, tickets to see the post-season Raptors at the ACC cost, on average, $370.

> **We'd definitely expect the price to increase if they were to make it further into the playoffs.**
> Jeff Poirier

$95
The cheapest ticket for Saturday's playoff opener.

Part of it has to do with the sheer size of Toronto and its ranking as a major market among NBA cities, said Jeff Poirier, the head of StubHub Canada.

"Sellers will list tickets based on what they think they can get," he said.

And, based on what people are asking, they're betting plenty of people are willing to make a trip to The 6ix.

Word to the wise: People looking to get in on the game, might want to jump now.

"We'd definitely expect the price to increase if they were to make it further into the playoffs," Poirier said.

Heroes and villains

After choking up and losing in the first round for the past two post-seasons, the Raptors' road to redemption starts with the Indiana Pacers. Game 1 starts at 12:30 p.m. Saturday at the Air Canada Centre. These are five names you might want to know.

DeMar DeRozan: The longest serving Raptor was drafted in 2009, his mid-range jumpers are a thing of beauty. He's second across the NBA when it comes to getting to the free throw line. This season, he's averaged 23.5 points per game, good for 8th on league's scoring list.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Kyle Lowry: Easily one of the league's top-five point guards and fresh off his second straight NBA All-Star starting duties, he's been called the team's motor, leader, the Bulldog of Bay Street. And, look out for #LowryTime to start trending.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cory Joseph: It's a safe bet that he'll have the biggest fan-base at the game and throughout the city. The Pickering product, who won a championship with the San Antonio Spurs two years ago, is a reliable floor general to give Lowry a breather.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Monta Ellis: The shrewd guard came to Indiana this season from Dallas and has been key in shaping the team's smaller and quicker offense.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Paul George: The all-around player and scoring machine has led the Pacers to the conference finals twice, losing to the Lebron James-led Miami Heat. His season-ending injury last year was a factor in the team missing the playoffs. But, he's back with a bang. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

BYLAWS

Divided rideshare debate gets heated

Personal attacks, emotional outbursts and two very divided groups filled Toronto's council chamber Thursday during the first public debate on new regulations for taxis and companies like Uber.

Mayor John Tory has promised "to level the playing field" after Uber disrupted the strictly regulated taxi industry. With staff-recommended reforms finally in hand, people representing the taxi industry at the licensing and standards committee meeting Thursday were less than impressed.

"The mayor's mantra, while he delayed us time and time and time again, has been, 'Give us a chance to level the playing field and not allow the wild west,' said Larry Labovitch, of City Taxi. "What we have here is a playing field so tilted in Uber's favour, that we, the taxi industry, will slide right off the field." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jaswinder Mundi, a director of United Taxi Workers Association, left, is questioned by Coun. Glenn De Baeremaeker on Wednesday. CITY OF TORONTO/YOUTUBE

Anibal Davila of Bike Sauce preps a bike intended for a young boy. Davila says the boy's father will be using a bicycle to commute to work and is hoping his two sons will learn to bike for pleasure. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Free wheels for refugees

COMMUNITY

Volunteers refurbish used bikes to give to new Canadians

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Anibal Davila is helping Syrian refugees in Toronto the best way he knows how.

Davila, 36, is one of the founders of Bike Sauce, a volunteer-run bike repair shop on Broadview Avenue. For the past few weeks he and his colleagues have been fixing up old bicycles and donating them to refugee families.

Bike Sauce has given away 14 bikes so far and has plans to donate at least another 10, he said.

"Our mandate isn't necessarily to put more bikes on the road, but it's to get more people engaged in cycling," Davila said.

"If you make someone's introduction to the city a bicycle, that's instantly someone who's going to be a cyclist.

"It's someone who will be advocating for bikes and one less person in a car."

When he first moved to Toronto, Davila says he got to know the city by cycling through it. He wants to give that same experience to newly arrived Syrians, many of whom can't afford a car just yet.

"If you arrive in a new place, a car can be a really isolating way to get around. You just go from where you live to where you have to go," he said.

"On a bike you get to know all the communities in between those two places."

HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Donate a working bike

Davila and his fellow Bike Sauce volunteers are hoping to refurbish as many bikes as they can before they get swamped with tune-ups this spring. If you have a working bicycle — especially one for children — that you'd like to donate, you can drop it off at 341 Broadview Ave. METRO

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A win for indigenous groups

SUPREME COURT

Recognition given to Métis and non-status Indians

The Supreme Court of Canada has expanded the responsibility of the federal government for indigenous peoples in Canada, ruling unanimously that Métis and non-status Indians fall under its constitutional jurisdiction.

"The constitutional changes, the apologies for historic wrongs, a growing appreciation that aboriginal and non-aboriginal people are partners in Confederation, as well as the Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples and the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, all indicate that reconciliation with all of Canada's aboriginal peoples is Parliament's goal," Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella wrote in the unanimous decision delivered Thursday morning.

Gabriel Daniels leaves the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa on Thursday following the ruling that Métis and non-status are Indians under the Constitution. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Supreme Court ruled that the roughly 418,000 Métis and 214,000 non-status Indians — or First Nations people without registered Indian status — should be considered "Indians" under section 91(24) of the Constitution Act of 1867, just as First Nations people with registered Indian status are.

The landmark ruling gives these groups a starting point for negotiating rights, treaties, services and benefits with Ottawa, although it does not provide the federal government with directions on how to proceed.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called it a "landmark decision" and reiterated his Liberal government has committed to reset Canada's relationship with indigenous peoples.

"Quite frankly, we as a government have positioned ourselves in a way that is focused on renewing the relationship with indigenous peoples across this country through an open, respectful, honest, engaged partnership and relationship," said Trudeau.

The Supreme Court said this decision should put an end to the back-and-forth over whether provinces or the federal government has legislative jurisdiction over Métis and non-status Indians, which often left these people with no sure way who to turn to or negotiate with, or who to hold to account for unfulfilled obligations.

The decision prompted jubilation and emotion from the Métis and non-status Indian leaders who crowded the foyer of the Supreme Court to be among the first to react to the decision Thursday morning.

The ruling noted that before Confederation, the Crown had often included Métis and others of mixed aboriginal ancestry in its understanding of "Indians," used then as a generic term for aboriginal peoples, and that it often applied laws and policies to them as such. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ATTAWAPISKAT

It's like a war zone: Minister

Ontario's health minister says his visit to a remote First Nations community in the midst of a suicide crisis was just as devastating as the years he spent as a doctor in war zones around the world.

Eric Hoskins travelled on Wednesday to Attawapiskat, where dozens of youth have tried to kill themselves over the past few months.

In addition to a three-hour meeting with community leaders, he also sat down for a few hours with dozens of young people, all of whom have been touched by suicide, including friends and family members either killing themselves or trying to.

"It's deeply upsetting that when you have children that young that are in such pain or have lost hope — that they're turning to that kind of consideration," said Hoskins, who spent years in war-ravaged countries. "It just demonstrates just how serious this situation is and how important action is." THE CANADIAN PRESS

WILDLIFE

Whales have 'key similarities' to human society

New research reveals there's more to being a sperm whale than deep diving, eating giant squid and being as big as a city bus.

These lumbering behemoths may have their own distinct dialects and cultures — and prefer other whales that are most like themselves, according to a marine researcher at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

After analyzing 30 years of underwater recordings, PhD candidate Mauricio Cantor has found sperm whales learn to communicate from their peers and relatives, in much the same way that humans do.

"They prefer to interact with those that communicate using the same sounds that they do … and we call these vocal clans," he says.

"Even though they are very different from us, they have key similarities with our society, in terms of having families, having social preferences and also communicating using similar sounds."

When near the surface of the ocean, typical sperm whales emit clicking noises that sound like a stick being raked across a series of metal bars — a kind of staccato Morse code.

Researchers have long known that these sounds have patterns associated with separate populations of sperm whales.

Cantor's research, however, goes much deeper than that.

Using recordings that date back to the 1980s, Cantor created computer simulations of whale populations spread over many centuries. The technique generated evidence suggesting communication within these large groups is the product of social learning.

"The most likely scenario is that they are learning from their peers. They are conforming to the most common sounds they hear, just like us. They tend to copy what is in fashion."

The fascinating result, he says, is segregated whale cultures that are not unlike the various human cultures around the globe.

"We usually interact more with those who are similar to us. I hope that finding the similarities with other animal societies can improve our relationship with the natural world — with the whales and other animals." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Marine researchers have known for a long time that separate whale groups communicate with different sounds. PhD candidate Mauricio Cantor went deeper and found that those patterns are based on social learning. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Feds to unveil law on assisted dying

More than a year after the Supreme Court struck down Canada's ban on assisted suicide, the federal government will introduce a new law spelling out the conditions in which seriously ill or dying Canadians may seek medical help to end their lives.

The proposed law will not be as permissive as recommended by a special committee. It is expected to say only competent adults should be eligible to receive medical aid in dying. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH

'The sound he was making was heartwrenching'

A mother accused in her toddler's death from bacterial meningitis wept repeatedly Thursday as she told court about the day her son was rushed to hospital.

"Our son was on life support and we were being told that someone felt we were neglectful. We were now being questioned on our parenting, too," testified Collet Stephan, choking back tears.

Stephan, 35, and her husband David, 32, are on trial accused of failing to provide the necessaries of life for 19-month-old Ezekiel in March 2012.

Ezekiel had been sick for more than two weeks when he stopped breathing and later died in hospital. Court has heard how his parents gave him natural remedies, including smoothies with hot peppers and horseradish, because they thought he had croup.

Stephan told jurors that the first day of her son's illness was easily the worst. She said he had a fever and was making a wheezing and whistling noise as he tried to breathe.

"The sound he was making was heartwrenching." THE CANADIAN PRESS

LOCAL MATTERS

IN TORONTO

Right now, whether you look down or side to side, Metro is everywhere.
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the more closely Toronto looks at us.

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Toronto metro

*SOURCE: VIVIDATA Q4 2015 TORONTO CMA, ADULTS 18+, AVERAGE ISSUE READERSHIP.

Illegal gold booms in Latin America

A new study says illegal gold is more valuable than cocaine in South America. In Colombia and Peru, the industry funds organized crime, devastates the environment and exploits women and children. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In Peru and Colombia, the world's top producers of cocaine, illegally mined gold is now a more valuable export than cocaine, according to a new study.

Organized criminal groups have moved into this sector, leaving workers vulnerable to labour exploitation, human trafficking and sexual offences, the study says.

"It is staggering when you go to these illegal mines and you see that the government is not responding and all the negative impacts on the environment and on the people," said Livia Wagner, who wrote the report for the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, based in Switzerland. "Illegal mining funds criminal and terrorist groups, facilitates money laundering and corruption … and creates sex trafficking."

Illegal miners tend to use heavy machinery, but lack legal titles and shirk labour and environmental standards. Both Peru and Colombia also have large-scale legal gold mining industries, including mines run by companies based in Canada.

High gold prices from 2000 to 2010, combined with lower profit margins in drug trafficking, created the ideal conditions for this boom. Once gold is laundered it becomes indistinguishable from legal gold and can be easily moved across borders.

The study estimates that 28 per cent of gold mined in Peru is illegal, earning criminals $3.3 billion a year. In Colombia, it estimates 80 per cent of gold production is illegal, worth between $1.9 billion and $2.6 billion a year. That makes illegal mining more lucrative than cocaine production.

"We came up with these numbers by looking at how much gold miners officially register versus how much gold is being exported. The discrepancy is the illegally mined gold," Wagner said. "Gold has no label and doesn't have a provenance."

Latin America also has a large number of traditional, artisanal miners, who work without heavy machinery, are not considered illegal and are generally not connected to organized crime.

Most of Latin American gold is sent to refineries in the U.S., Switzerland and Canada.

The investigation also found evidence of the sexual abuse of children in the illegal mining sector. In Peru, girls are recruited to work in brothels close to mining areas in the country's southeast. As many as 2,000 sex workers, of whom 60 per cent are minors, are employed near one mining area, the study says.

Illegal mining can also take a devastating toll on the environment and on human health. A common way to extract gold is for workers to mix toxic mercury with powdered ore, and then burn off the mercury to collect the gold. This process, which is often done without safety equipment, can cause permanent health problems.

The deforestation of the Amazon rain forest is also due, in part, to illegal mining, the study says.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BY THE NUMBERS

1 Peru
Legal gold production: **138 tonnes**
Illegal gold: **54 tonnes, 28% of total**
Value of illegal gold: **$3.3 billion**

2 Ecuador
Legal gold: **2.7 tonnes**
Illegal gold: **7.3 tonnes, 77% of total**
Value of illegal gold: **$510 million**

3 Colombia
Legal gold: **10 tonnes**
Illegal gold: **41 tonnes, 80% of total**
Value of illegal gold: **$2.6 billion**

4 Venezuela
Legal gold: **1.8 tonnes**
Illegal gold: **15 tonnes, 91% of total**
Value of illegal gold: **$900 million**

5 Brazil
Legal gold: **72 tonnes**
Illegal gold: **8.2 tonnes, 10% of total**
Value of illegal gold: **$510 million**

6 Bolivia
Legal gold production: **5.4 tonnes**
Illegal gold: **2.7 tonnes, 31% of total**
Value of illegal gold: **$130 million**

SOURCE: U.S., SWISS AND CANADIAN CUSTOMS DATA

IN BRIEF

Welcome to Czechia
Czechia will soon be synonymous with the Czech Republic.

Unlike most European countries, the Czech Republic has lacked a one-word version of its name in foreign languages.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chimp runs loose in Japan
Chacha the chimpanzee fled from a zoo in northern Japan and tried to avoid being captured by climbing an electric pole. He on the loose for two hours Thursday after disappearing from the Yagiyama Zoological Park.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Refugees at the Greek border.
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

REFUGEE CRISIS

Germany to employ migrants

Seeking to better integrate the 1.1 million asylum-seekers who arrived last year, Germany's governing parties agreed Thursday to get newcomers into the workforce faster, promote broader German language skills and prevent migrant ghettos from forming in big cities.

The measures, which will be discussed with state governors before they're presented to Parliament, seek to strike a balance between giving migrants easier access to jobs and integration courses while also increasing expectations of them.

The measures foresee creating 100,000 government-funded "job opportunities" for migrants, according to a copy of the plan. They also would suspend for three years a rule that excludes asylum-seekers from jobs unless no German or European Union citizen can fill them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colin and Justin turn a neglected, rundown cottage into a coveted rental property.
COLIN & JUSTIN'S CABIN PRESSURE
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Water's rise marks pop's demise

Even though single-serve bottled water is usually more expensive than a can of pop, consumption of bottled water in the U.S. is set to overtake that of soft drinks for the first time as health-conscious buyers shun the high-calorie fizzy stuff. Here's a look at bottled water's rise and sinking pop brands.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 DASANI

The top-selling bottled water in the U.S. doesn't come from a fresh spring in France. It's basically purified municipal tap water that is manufactured and distributed by The Coca-Cola Company.

The brand launched in 1999 after the runaway success of the Aquafina brand owned by rival PepsiCo.

2 NESTLÉ PURE LIFE

Nestlé Waters of Canada Ltd. remains the dominant player in Canada with a 30 per cent share of retail sales in 2015. The company added new flavours to its Pure Life Sparkling range as well as L'Orange to its Perrier range in early 2015, stressing the zero calorie and zero sugar features. It also has a presence in the carbonated category with its Sanpellegrino Sparkling fruit beverage.

3 AQUAFINA

Launched in 1994, this flat water brand is also derived from the local water supply. After pressure from environmental groups, owner PepsiCo announced this year that it will revise the product's label to clearly show the drink is made with treated water from public reservoirs.

The brand is also big into flavoured waters.

4 SMARTWATER

Electrolytes and potassium are added to this "vapour distilled" water to give it a clean taste. Smartwater is a private subsidiary of The Coca Cola Company under the Energy Brands banner. About 10 years ago rapper 50 Cent owned a minority stake in the company as part of an endorsement deal. The bankrupt hit-maker has since sold his shares.

5 COCA COLA & PEPSI

The decline in pop sales has hit the world's biggest soft-drink maker hard since 74 per cent of its business worldwide remains soft drinks. Coca Cola got an 8 per cent calorie cut last January in Canada and shrank its bottle size. Meanwhile, Pepsi has battled detractors with a new tact, marketing a new product line as made with "real sugar" as opposed to artificial ingredients.

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Your essential daily news
SCIENCE SAYS Weekend, April 15-17, 2016

Tiny Toto: Purebred pooches today have been bred to have chubbier cheeks, bigger eyes and smaller bodies than in the 1990s.

DECODED Designer people

CUSTOM BABIES NOT FAR OFF

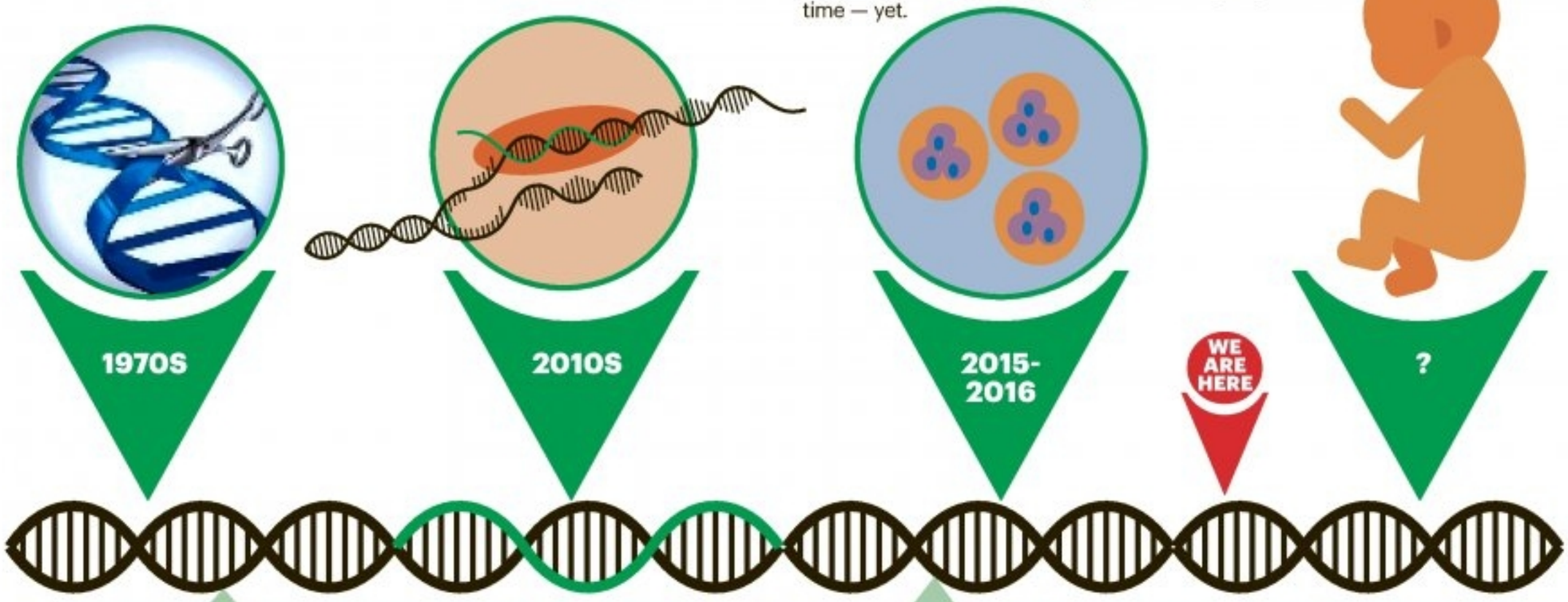
Imagine a world where we could genetically enhance human beings to heal easily, resist diseases, and have eye colour, hair colour, and other traits made-to-order. It's science fiction. But it could be the future. Here's how: **CRISPR**, a precise tool for cutting and pasting DNA.

THE OLD WAY: RECOMBINANT DNA
Using a lot of complex and **fairly imprecise** equipment, scientists can extract and copy a gene from one thing and incorporate it into a different organism's DNA.

CRISPR IN ACTION
Scientists custom-engineer the RNAs in the **CRISPR system** to accurately edit or disable several genes at once, and precisely select where to insert a gene in a living cell.

HUMAN EXPERIMENTS
In March of 2015 and 2016, teams in China used CRISPR to modify human embryos — first to change a gene for a **blood disorder**, then to create **resistance to HIV**. They were only partly successful, and created many unintended changes. CRISPR holds promise for preventing genetic diseases, but it's not ready for prime time — yet.

WHAT'S NEXT?
Soon science could change embryos with CRISPR and implant them **using in-vitro fertilization**. CRISPR is easy to use and becoming more accurate. What's to stop some unscrupulous scientist from going further?



WHAT IS CRISPR?
Bacteria use CRISPR (**C**lustered **R**egularly **I**nterspaced **S**hort **P**alindromic **R**epeats), a type of DNA sequence, to fight invading viruses. CRISPR-related genes make **guide RNAs**, which help locate the DNA of viruses, and **Cas proteins**, which snip off bits of viruses' DNA. This wrecks the virus and lets the bacteria stow a bit of viral DNA in its own genes, in case of repeat attack.

ETHICAL DILEMMA
There's huge legal and scientific opposition to using CRISPR to change the **human germline** — sperm, eggs or embryos. In 2015, top geneticists wrote an editorial in Nature calling this practice "dangerous and ethically unacceptable." If a CRISPR-modified embryo were implanted and allowed to grow into a person, every cell in that person's body would carry the modification. **And it would be passed down to their offspring, too.**

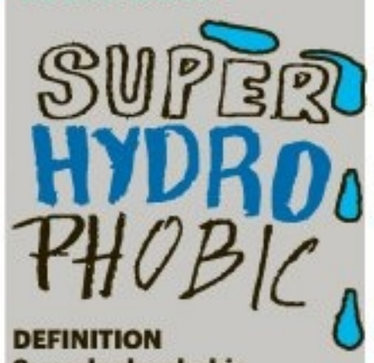
GRAPHIC: ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO

FINDINGS
Your week in science

DYING DOLPHINS
In the last four years, 88 per cent of the dead baby and fetal dolphins found near the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill site had serious lung problems, says a new study involving UBC researchers.

DARK DUEL
For more than a decade, scientists at the Gran Sasso lab in Italy have claimed to be first to detect dark matter. Their claim isn't widely accepted, but no one's been able to disprove it. Now two other teams, one at Yale and one in South Korea, are going to replicate the Italian methods and see what they can see.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION
Superhydrophobic materials — many of them developed and refined in recent years — aren't just water-repellent. Water rolls off them, and many such materials cause a thin layer of air to collect between the water and the surface.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
"I can barely see the road in this rain. I wish my windshield were **superhydrophobic**."

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

Is space junk going to fall on me?

How did Japan just lose a satellite? Is it going to fall on me? — C.L., Toronto

The Hitomi satellite, an X-ray telescope meant to study objects like black holes and neutron stars, was launched in February 2016 by JAXA, the Japanese space agency. On March 26, something went sideways: The $285-million contraption broke up, lost contact with JAXA (apart from spotty radio signals) and was recorded apparently tumbling end-over-end across the sky.

What happened isn't clear, but U.S. military experts don't think it was a collision with a large object. JAXA's first priority is re-establishing contact; the blame game will follow.

According to UBC astrophysicist Jaymie Matthews, it will likely be years before pieces of Hitomi enter our atmosphere, they'll be small, and most will land in the ocean. There is a slim chance it could smash into another satellite, but no, it's not going to fall on you.

It's more probable, but exceedingly unlikely, you'll get hit by something else from space. Tonnes of asteroids, meteorites, etc. fall on Earth every day, mostly as dust. The exactly one confirmed case of a direct meteorite hit on a person, in 1954, resulted in a spectacular bruise, not death.

There's always the chance of a civilization-ending impact from a massive object, but there's no evidence one is imminent (NASA's got an eye out) and there's no point worrying.

This brings up one of my favourite topics in the universe: The difference between hazard and risk. A hazard can cause harm under certain circumstances; a risk is the chance of harm actually happening. Space junk is a hazard, sure. But the risk is infinitesimal.

Science Question? Tweet @genna_buck

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'The King of the swingers'

THE JUNGLE BOOK

Here's how one of Disney's best-loved songs came to be made

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

In 2009 I hosted an on-stage event with Disney legend Richard Sherman.

The co-writer (with his brother Robert) of classic songs like It's a Small World (After All), Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious and the Oscar winning Chim Chim Cher-ee, was seated behind a piano and after regaling us with stories from his career, asked if anyone had any song requests.

I took advantage of my position as host and butted in, asking if he'd sing the hippest children's song ever written, I Wan'na Be like You (The Monkey Song) from The Jungle Book.

As his fingers danced across the keyboard, he began, "Now, I'm the King of the Swinger's Ball, a Jungle V.I.P…" and I was transported back to being a kid, wearing the grooves off the soundtrack record, playing it over and over. I was reminded of that memorable moment earlier this week as I watched the new, updated version of The Jungle Book. The song gets a remake, this time sung by Christopher Walken, but the magic is still there.

In the animated 1967 original, Louis Prima — playing the raucous orangutan King Louie — sang the upbeat tune but Richard Sherman says when they wrote the song they didn't have Prima in mind.

Walt Disney hired them to help "Disnify" Rudyard Kipling's original stories about a feral child raised in the jungle by wolves.

"Our assignment was to find crazy ways of having fun with it," says Sherman.

For King Louie's big moment the brothers went with a New Orleans inspired musical arrangement, complete with scat-singing.

They played the swingin' song at a story conference and it was decided the singer should be the most swingin' jazz act in the country. "When we first got an idea for I Wan'na Be Like You, we said an ape swings from a tree, and he's the king of apes. We'll make him 'the king of the swingers.' That's the idea, we'll make him a jazz man."

The brothers presented the song to Prima who reportedly said, "You want to make a monkey out of me? You got me!"

It was a perfect marriage of performer to character, so much so that Disney animators filmed Prima live on a soundstage as a guide to animate his movements in the movie.

The I Wan'na Be like You (The Monkey Song) sequence is a standout in a film filled with great songs and has made a lasting impression on a generation or two of musicians.

Everyone from Phish and Voodoo Glow Skulls to Los Lobos and Fall Out Boy have covered the song. There's a Hungarian version called Egy ilyen majom embernek való by Gyula Bodrogi & László Csákányi. And O Rei do lê-lê-lê was a hit in Brazil for Márcio Simões & Mauro Ramos.

Of all the covers, Sherman says he likes the version by Smash Mouth featured in The Jungle Book 2. Almost 50 years after he originally co-wrote the song Richard Sherman revisited the tune. On the red carpet at The Jungle Book's premier last week Sherman said he wrote new lyrics, "because it's not the King Louie you saw in the first movie. This is a gigantopithecus, the greatest ape there ever was."

Louis Prima's version will always be the classic, at least for me, but Sherman says, "Chris Walken does a great job (on the song)."

King Louie's I Wan'na Be Like You gets re-imagined for the new Jungle Book, with Christopher Walken singing. CONTRIBUTED

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Jungle Book	★★★★
Barbershop: The Next Cut	★★★
Criminal	★★
Miles Ahead	★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

CANNES

Canada's Xavier Dolan offers up film for festival's top prize

Canadian wunderkind director Xavier Dolan will be competing at the Cannes Film Festival once again, this time with It's Only the End of the World.

The story of a dying author, starring Marion Cotillard and Lea Seydoux, marks the second time Dolan has had a film running for the Palme d'Or top prize.

The 27-year-old has a storied history with the prestigious festival in France. Last year he was a jury member, in 2014 his film Mommy shared the jury prize, and in 2009 his first feature film I Killed My Mother won several awards.

Sean Penn's The Last Face, about aid workers in Africa, will also compete at festival — along with movies about interracial marriage in 1950s America, illness and poverty in working class Britain, and cannibal fashion models in L.A.

The 49 selected films come from 28 countries, including Iran, Brazil, Egypt, Israel and South Korea.

Twenty of them are in the running for the Palme d'Or, the top prize at the French Riviera festival, held under heightened security this year after recent deadly Islamic extremist attacks on France and Belgium.

Xavier Dolan's film It's Only the End of the World stars Marion Cotillard as a dying author. CONTRIBUTED

Organizers hope that the three women directors that figure among the 20 top-tier entries will satisfy critics who say that female talent is overlooked at the festival.

This year, top stars expected to grace the famed red carpet at the May 11-22 festival include Cotillard, Shia LaBeouf, Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart, Charlize Theron, Julia Roberts, Jodie Foster and George Clooney, and this edition will see the return of old Cannes favourites such as directors Pedro Almodovar, Ken Loach, Jim Jarmusch and the Dardenne brothers.

Penn's latest directorial effort, with Theron and Javier Bardem, is likely to get top attention, alongside the festival's wackiest entry, the Danish horror film The Neon Demon by Nicolas Winding Refn about beauty-obsessed flesh-eating models.

Others include Loving by American director Jeff Nichols, about a black-white couple in the U.S. in the 1950s, and British director Loach's I, Daniel Blake, about a working-class man in northern England struggling with poverty and injury.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2016 PLAYOFFS

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OUR BATTLE BEGINS.

Best and worst adventures with Mowgli

CLASSICS

Not all Jungle Book remakes were great — here's why

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Thanks mainly to Disney, everyone is familiar with the tales of feral man-cub Mowgli and his bushland buddies Baloo the bear and Bagheera the panther.

But since novelist Rudyard Kipling first drafted up The Jungle Book in 1894, there have been many adaptations of the classic novel to allure movie audiences.

In celebration of the newest Mowgli misadventure hitting theatres today, we flip open the cover on cinema's many Jungle Books.

1. The First Film

Nearly 50 years after publication, Hollywood took on The Jungle Book to great acclaim.

Earning a quartet of Oscar nods, the 1942 live-action adaptation mesmerized moviegoers with its exotic locales, striking cinematography and the real-life teenage elephant-driver cast in the lead role.

Filming jungle sequences proved challenging in the '40s however; director Zoltan Korda nearly drowned shooting a scene with a huge rubber python.

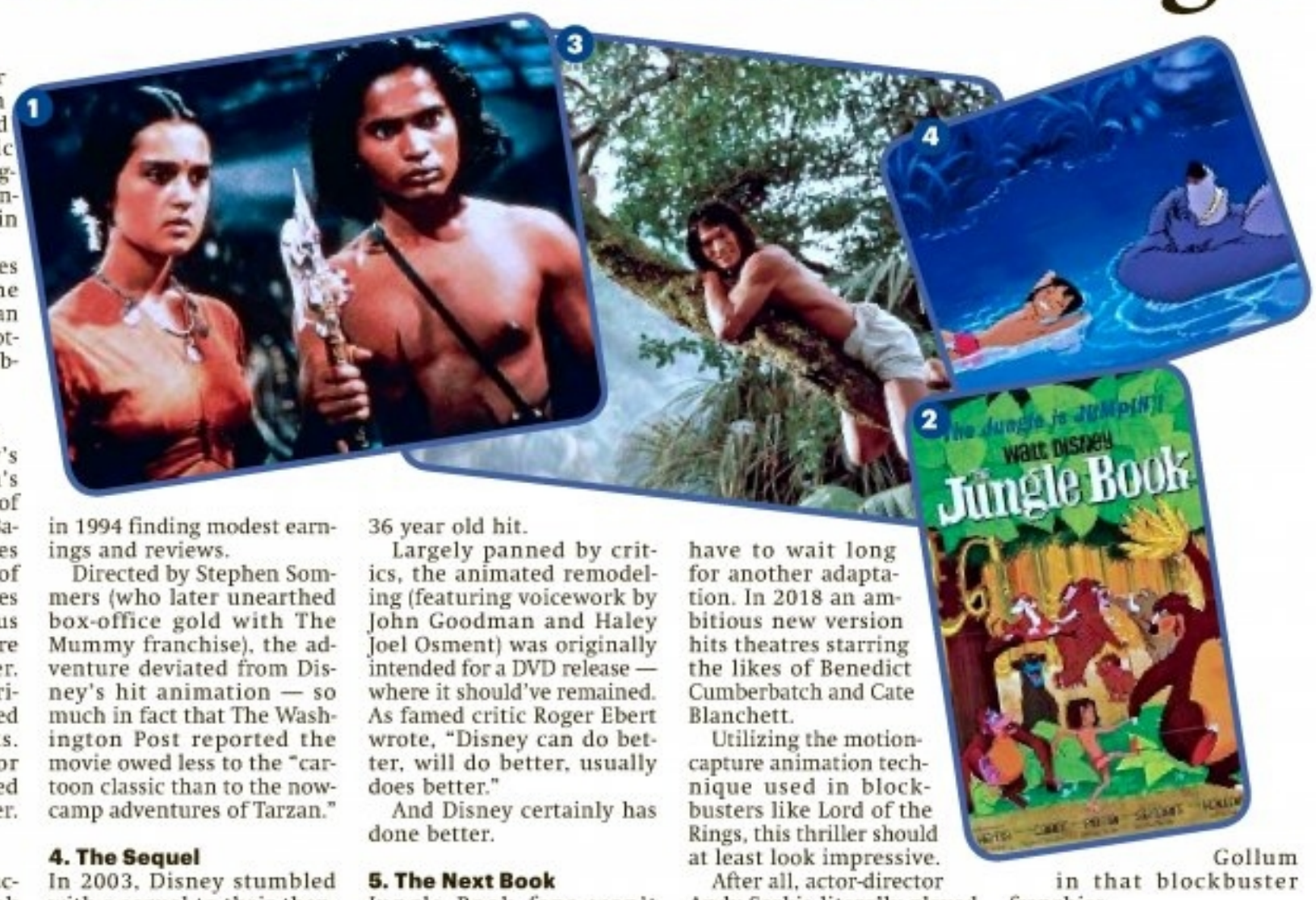
2. The Animated Classic

There's no doubt Disney's 1967 animation is cinema's most prominent adoption of Kipling's creation. Bouncy Baloo singing Bare Necessities may be at the forefront of most moviegoers' memories but the film is also famous as Walt Disney's final feature after succumbing to cancer.

Not only a financial triumph, the cartoon influenced many later Disney works. Even Ratatouille director Brad Bird claims it inspired him to become a filmmaker.

3. The Forgotten One

Disney attempted a live-action version of Jungle Book in 1994 finding modest earnings and reviews.



Directed by Stephen Sommers (who later unearthed box-office gold with The Mummy franchise), the adventure deviated from Disney's hit animation — so much in fact that The Washington Post reported the movie owed less to the "cartoon classic than to the now-camp adventures of Tarzan."

4. The Sequel

In 2003, Disney stumbled with a sequel to their then-36 year old hit.

Largely panned by critics, the animated remodeling (featuring voicework by John Goodman and Haley Joel Osment) was originally intended for a DVD release — where it should've remained. As famed critic Roger Ebert wrote, "Disney can do better, will do better, usually does better."

And Disney certainly has done better.

5. The Next Book

Jungle Book fans won't have to wait long for another adaptation. In 2018 an ambitious new version hits theatres starring the likes of Benedict Cumberbatch and Cate Blanchett.

Utilizing the motion-capture animation technique used in blockbusters like Lord of the Rings, this thriller should at least look impressive.

After all, actor-director Andy Serkis literally played Gollum in that blockbuster franchise.

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INTERVIEW

Jungle Book star talks his nascent career, jet-setting ways

At only four-foot-eleven, budding movie star Neel Sethi's feet dangle freely from his perch during an all-day junket to promote his film, The Jungle Book.

So freely that the chair squeaks, and it prompts urgent action to keep a reporter's recording from being spoiled: a duffel bag is plopped on top of a wooden crate and placed under the 12-year-old's feet.

The interview can resume. Like a pro, Sethi offers up a smile for the camera.

This pre-teen leading man takes the quirks of helming an international publicity campaign in stride, eagerly listing all the ways he's just like his big screen character, Mowgli, and dropping anecdotes about co-star Bill Murray and director Jon Favreau.

"I got to meet a lot of people," Sethi says matter-of-factly of his blockbuster turn.

"Bill Murray, me and Jon Favreau flew to Martha's Vineyard on a private jet and Jon Favreau made a brisket while me and Bill Murray played football."

Sethi stars in the live-action remake of Disney's animated 1967 film of the same name, also based on Rudyard Kipling's stories about an abandoned child raised in the jungle by an array of wild animals.

Neel Sethi was chosen for the role of Mowgli out of 2,000 contenders. CONTRIBUTED

The effects-laden feature is packed with eye-popping spectacles — virtually everything, save for Sethi, is computer-generated.

That includes the fearsome tiger Shere Khan, voiced by Idris Elba; the protective panther Bagheera, voiced by Ben Kingsley; Mowgli's bear pal Baloo, voiced by Murray; and the deceitful snake Kaa, voiced by Scarlett Johansson.

When talk turns to his on-set exploits, Sethi insists the project was more play than work, since his jungle-raised character spends a good chunk of time running, jumping, swinging or climbing.

"I trained in parkour like two weeks before filming, and that really helped me," says Sethi, who was chosen for the role out of 2,000 young contenders.

"They would teach me how to land safely and I'd get over things quickly. It was a lot of fun. And now it looks so cool in the movie."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

'Nothing will ever be able to satisfactorily explain why somebody like Miles Davis or Nina Simone exists,' Simon said

Fresh off our flight and in the back of a taxi headed to the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans last Saturday morning, Simon looked out his window and gasped. "What is it?" I asked.

"That corner there — right at North Rampart and Perdido — that's the spot where a 12-year-old Louis Armstrong shot a revolver and was sent to the Negro Waif's Home," he said, "which is where he learned to play the trumpet."

The next day Simon saw the trumpet itself at the Jazz collection in the Louisiana State Museum. I regret not being with him — I've seen Armstrong's music bring him to tears so I wonder what happened when he spotted the instrument — but I was on my own cultural excursion, which may have included looking for Brad and Angelina's former home in the French Quarter.

Later on, maybe because we were in the city where jazz was invented, or maybe on account of those cold bottles of Heineken, we talked about the Jazz Biopic Trend: This Friday you can see Don Cheadle as Miles Davis in Miles Ahead, there's Born to be Blue with Ethan Hawke playing Chet Baker, and soon Nina will hit theatres with Zoe Saldana as Ms. Simone.

Simon, who will gladly watch Ken Burns' 10-part documentary on jazz any night of the week, has no interest in watching them. Why? "Because you're going to see somebody overcoming obstacles," he said. "You'll get the facts and details of their life — and they might contextualize what you're hearing — but nothing will ever be able to satisfactorily explain why somebody like Miles Davis or Nina Simone exists."

THE MOVIE: Miles Ahead

THE DRINK: A Sazerac

"I'll give Don Cheadle credit," he continued. "He tackles the retirement: where Miles basically just lived in the dark, did drugs, and didn't touch his horn for five years. But even that could diminish him because any narrative arc is beneath the calibre of the art he created, the tumultuous life he lived, and the indignities he suffered living as a black genius in America."

And after watching the superb Nina Simone documentary on Netflix, we both agreed that it would be embarrassing for an actor to play her — because you don't need to.

But what about Louis? Would Simon ever watch a biopic about Satchmo? I asked him that on our last night in Crescent City. It must've been after 1:00 a.m. when we saddled up to the Sazerac Bar in our hotel lobby for one final namesake cocktail before flying home early that morning. Maybe three days of music, a second line parade in Treme, and eating — shrimp gumbo, fried catfish, boiled crawfish, too many po' boys — had softened his resolve.

"Not on your life," he said. "You know he spent a long time away from New Orleans because he refused to play in front of segregated audiences. He wouldn't come home until it ended."

We sat in silence for a moment, sipping on our Sazeracs. "That's why I get so emotional about Louis Armstrong: this genius whose whole thing was just creating joy. And to come out of such misery — to be a despised person in your country — and despite that, to just bring joy to millions of people," he said. "That's something you can't understand in 90 minutes with a bow-tie ending. You have to listen to the recordings, bow down before them, and be grateful that we live in age of recorded sound."

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

FILM BRIEFS

Channing Tatum to join cast of Kingsman 2

Channing Tatum has confirmed that he is joining the cast of Kingsman: Golden Circle.

The actor announced the news his official Twitter account saying, "I'm about to get all up in that Golden Circle."

The film is the sequel to Matthew Vaughn's 2014 action-spy movie and will continue the story of Eggsy, played by Egerton, who was recruited by a secret spy operative and trained to become one of their best agents. AFP

Adaptation of Fahrenheit 451 is in the works

A movie adaptation of Ray Bradbury's classic novel Fahrenheit 451 is in the works at HBO films reports The Wrap.

Ramin Bahrani, who previously wrote and directed the Andrew Garfield and Michael Shannon movie 99 Homes is set to write, direct, and executive produce the project. AFP

TELEVISION

President previews Game Thrones

Presidential perk: Obama will probably know Jon Snow's fate before you do. The U.S. president requested a sneak preview of Game of Thrones' secrecy-shrouded Season 6, and he got one

Being the leader of the free world isn't a bad gig. You get a nice house (with ample parking, right in the middle of Washington), your own jet and, perhaps most importantly, early access to the year's most-anticipated show.

HBO and Game of Thrones showrunners David Benioff and D.B. Weiss aren't releasing screeners of the new season.

During HBO's Sunday red carpet for the premiere of Season 6's first episode, the showrunners confirmed that the U.S. president will receive advance episodes.

"When the commander in chief says, 'I want to see advanced episodes,' what are you gonna do?" Benioff said. THE WASHINGTON POST

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metro TRAVEL
Your essential daily news

Three couples spend night with sharks in AirBnB Paris aquarium contest

With 36 billionaires, Palm Beach is America's richest zip code, but you only need to head to West Palm Beach to soak in an artsier vibe. MAIN: INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB; ALL OTHERS KATHY BUCKWORTH/FOR METRO

A taste of the other Florida

PALM BEACH

Just as fun as Miami, but more laid back

Kathy Buckworth
For Metro Canada

At the halfway point of a polo match at the International Polo Club in Florida, there's a rush to the field by all the spectators. There are those in the champagne filled tents, who are there to be seen, and those who are there to watch, from the stands. Both move with equal speed to line up for a free glass of champagne and to stomp the divots. The divide between the demographics is significant, symbolic of the bridge that separates West Palm and Palm Beach. "I'd never cross" say some residents, of either side.

With only a population of 9,000, and at only 26 miles from top to bottom, Palm Beach is home to 32 billionaires, America's richest zip code, and where Donald Trump's 110,000 square foot estate Mar-A-Lago sits on coveted Ocean Boulevard, surrounded by homes owned by old money and new dot the shoreline. For a terrific overview of the island and its inhabitants, take the Island Living Tour, either by car, bike or your own two feet.

Polo is one of the season's central social activities. Prices vary; it is possible to take in a match for as little as $40. After hobnobbing, relax at a boutique hotel like the beachside Tideline, where you can join a complimentary yoga class or enjoy a plate of fresh sushi at on-site restaurant Mizu.

Do cross the bridge and venture into West Palm Beach on a Saturday between October and May and you'll have the chance to tour the very popular Green Market. Over 80 local food, drink and craft vendors make this a must visit to get a sense of the culture and people of West Palm. Take a local food tour (West Palm Beach Food Tours) to sample a bit of what this artsy and foodie community has to offer.

With 23 per cent of the population foreign born, there is a huge variety of cuisine available, including many vegan options.

Its laid back vibe is in contrast to the crazy nightlife of Miami or the heavy tourism of Orlando.

Nightlife in West Palm Beach centers around City Place, conveniently located next to the impressive Kravis Center, where the Miami City Ballet's fanciful interpretation of A Midsummer's Night Dream is currently playing.

Across the street, the two month old Hilton West Palm Beach is only 10 minutes from the airport.

West Palm and Palm Beach combined make for the perfect long-weekend getaway.

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Along the way, Victoria got cool

WEST COAST

Island giving off an increasingly youthful vibe

Victoria's graffiti artists have transformed buildings on Discovery St. into a wild ride of street art. A tech boom is attracting loads of younger people to the city. MAIN: JENNIFER ALLFORD/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; INSET: DEDDEDA STEMLER

It's quite some time before you see even one little old lady as you ride a bike on the Galloping Goose — a 60-kilometre trail from Victoria to Sooke.

It's rush hour for rowers and as you stop on the Trestle Bridge to watch them on the water below, a couple of young women — one with blue hair another with wacky tights — walk past and you have to wonder what happened to the city full of "newlywed, nearly dead and garden beds."

Somewhere along the way, Victoria got cool.

Students from across Canada have always flocked to the University of Victoria to escape the snow, but people in their 20s and 30s are moving here now, drawn by a booming tech sector.

And the flock of retirees is getting younger.

Sure, you can still pick up a stack of Irish linens or get your age spots removed, but you can also pop into Smoking Lily for a periodic table silkscreened on a dress and find plenty of grooming shops for the ubiquitous gnome beards.

Grandmas line up for afternoon tea at the Fairmont Empress, but at the hotel's Bengal Lounge, someone's grandkids are enjoying smart cocktails.

The signature drink features tea-infused vodka, lemon juice, simple syrup and egg white and is served, naturally, with a mini scone.

"I love this room," says Bruce Livingstone.

Livingstone, the guy who founded iStock and sold it to Getty for $50 million (U.S.), moved from L.A. to Victoria a few years ago and started a new stock photography company, Stocksy.

"People say how can you live there, it's so boring," he says. "But I tell them if you're bored then it's your fault."

Livingstone and thousands of others are coming to the city for the quality of life and the great outdoors, which can involve throwing on wetsuits to go for a swim, or going surfing or fishing.

Victoria is good for business, too. "It's great," says the entrepreneur. "There's a great network of tech people and we're all connected."

On Friday night, beautiful people fill every table at Little Jumbo, enjoying dinner with fresh local ingredients — the chanterelle mushrooms that came in yesterday are served with a little Parmesan, garlic and wine on grilled bread.

Tables of tattooed young 'uns sit next to middle-aged couples and every demo seems to be drinking a fancy cocktail.

The drink list changes every six weeks. If you're bamboozled by which booze to try, you can always go with the blurb that most tickles your fancy, such as gin-based Tea and Toast: "My good man it took Dutch courage, a stiff upper lip and a nice cup of tea to build an empire. Hang on to your monocle and have at it."

Poking fun is all part of the fun in the Royal City.

At Hotel Zed (named for the Queen's pronunciation of the last letter of the alphabet) locals line up weekend mornings for breakfast tacos or the mile-high fried egg sandwich at the Ruby.

The restaurant's co-owner Chris Jones — "one of the tall bearded dudes with cool aprons" — says the Ruby will open a second location. "Where the locals go, the tourists want to go," he says of picking spots that aren't exactly on the red double-decker bus routes.

> **People say how can you live there, it's so boring.... But I tell them if you're bored then it's your fault.**
>
> Bruce Livingstone, iStock founder, Victoria transplant

The tourists may also miss Discovery St., where Victoria's graffiti artists have transformed a couple of blah buildings into a gorgeous tapestry of street art. Visitors looking for treasures along the famed Antique Row may come home with something a little more contemporary if they stumble into Polychrome Fine Art.

"The sun never goes down on cool, my friend," the Hotel Zed desk clerk shouts to her colleague as he puts on his aviators and walks toward the 1967 VW bus out front.

The hotel has hipsters in the hot tub, a lobby that looks like The Brady Bunch on acid, and shuttle rides in a couple of VW buses.

"It's getting cooler here all the time," Livingstone says, but that doesn't mean the city's forgotten its manners: "Strangers on the street get mad at you if you don't say good morning."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The writer of this article was a guest of Destination BC and its partners, which didn't review or approve this story.

David Greco stands in front of meats and cheeses on display at Mike's Deli, which his father founded. ALL PHOTOS BETH J. HARPAZ/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Italian food love story set in the Bronx

CUISINE

Belmont bills itself as New York's 'real' Little Italy

A visit to Arthur Avenue in the Bronx means one thing: Italian food.

Fresh mozzarella, handmade pasta and hero sandwiches loaded with ham, tomatoes, peppers and cheese — it's all here in the delis, restaurants, shops, cafes and bakeries along Arthur Avenue and East 187th Street.

Some of the best-known places include Tino's Deli, Madonia Brothers Bakery and an old-school, family-style restaurant called Dominick's. But there are many other places to sample the neighbourhood's bounty.

Stop in at the DeLillo Pasticceria cafe, where display shelves overflow with cookies and pastries, for a sublime cappuccino and cannoli. Check out Borgatti's pasta store, where you can watch egg noodles being made on the spot. Borgatti's take-home specialties include fettucine made from squid ink and ravioli.

A sample of food from Mike's Deli.

A must on any trip to the neighbourhood is the Arthur Avenue Retail Market.

This indoor venue is home to a shop where cigars are rolled by hand, a produce market, a T-shirt souvenir store, and Mike's Deli, a favourite stop among politicians and celebrities.

In early April, Ohio Gov. John Kasich was photographed stuffing his face at Mike's, tearing into sandwiches and several helpings of spaghetti while stumping for votes in the New York Republican presidential primary.

A scrapbook on display at the deli shows photos of other famous visitors — including Robert DeNiro — chowing down and posing with enormous hunks of cheese and whole salamis.

David Greco, whose father founded Mike's Deli, recommends the Michelangelo hero, with prosciutto and heavenly fresh mozzarella, as one of the best things on the menu.

Arthur Avenue is located in the Belmont section of the Bronx. Belmont bills itself as the "real" Little Italy, contending that it is a more vibrant community than Manhattan's Little Italy, which has shrunk in recent decades to just a few blocks.

But while the Italian flavour of Belmont's culture and retailers remains strong, the population of Italian-American families has declined over the decades. The local mix now includes Latinos, Albanians and students from nearby Fordham University. Yet you can still find old women chatting away in Italian in the back row of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, surrounded by marble columns, stained glass windows and statues of the Madonna.

And while it's not unusual to find foodies and tourists on Arthur Avenue, there's a certain type of shopper that Greco likes the best.

"My favourite customers," he says, "are the grandmas."

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VIRGINIA'S DOWNTOWN DISTRICTS HAVE HISTORIC CHARM

Boutique shops and restaurants nestle amid 19th-century buildings.

SHOPPERS WALK ALONG KING STREET IN OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, THE THIRD-OLDEST HISTORIC DISTRICT IN THE UNITED STATES. **R. KENNEDY FOR VISIT ALEXANDRIA**

History is everywhere in Northern Virginia, and much of it has been preserved in its many downtown districts. Visitors can soak up its small-town charm along with an eclectic mix of shopping, dining and sightseeing.

Stroll bustling King Street in Old Town Alexandria for chef-driven restaurants, boutiques, art galleries and museums set in 18th- and 19th-century architecture still intact from the days of George Washington. The notable centre is the third-oldest historic district in the United States, with views of the Washington Monument and national Capitol building on the horizon.

This charming waterfront neighbourhood also includes a busy marina with street performers, live music, al fresco drinks and dining and three floors of art at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Explore the region via water taxis and river cruises by Potomac Riverboat Company.

In nearby Arlington, the stylish Village at Shirlington features a European-style promenade with outdoor dining, fun nightlife and eclectic art-house movies. Located in the valley of Four Mile Run, a tributary of the Potomac River, it's billed as Arlington's "arts and entertainment district" and features the Tony Award-winning Signature Theatre, known for hosting world-premiere musicals.

"Many musicals try [playing] out there before they make the trek to Broadway," says Claire Mouledoux, spokesperson for Visit Alexandria. "That's the anchor of the village — around that are all these little shops and restaurants, and most have outdoor seating."

Historic Downtown Leesburg, with its aged row houses and tree-lined streets, is known for its many antiques dealers, art galleries and other specialty shops. Most shops and restaurants are located within a three-block radius, but a free trolley transports riders throughout town.

"Leesburg gives you a perfect glimpse into small town Virginia" says Mouledoux "The historic streets are lined with boutiques featuring everything from chic apparel and local art, to unique antiques and Virginia country treasures."

The charming town of Historic Clifton has been declared a National Historic District — and still retains the feeling of a Norman Rockwell painting. Some of its homes date back to the 1870s. Here, you can dine at destination restaurants, visit Fairfax County's first winery, shop antiques stores and end your day with homemade custard.

Just a short ride from the United States' capital and the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains, Historic Downtown Manassas is known for its museums and mom-and-pop shops, including a family-owned microbrewery. It's also known for its American Civil War history, so it's easy to spend an afternoon visiting historic sites while taking in some shopping and a craft beer (or two) at BadWolf Brewing Co.

Content Solutions

These outhouses in British Columbia and Colorado, respectively, were named in a new Lonely Planet guide as some of the finest toilets in the world. B.C. TOILET CHRIS KOLACZAN; COLORADO TOILET GUY SAGI

The world's best toilets

COMFORT

If you're picky about your porcelain, this guide is for you

Because every traveller knows the importance of a strategically-placed loo, Lonely Planet has released a new guide book that curates some of the strangest, most stunning and remote toilets around the world, including a lone potty dug into the tundra of the Canadian Arctic and a toilet set against a dramatic Norwegian waterfall.

Toilets: A Spotter's Guide fills 128 pages of outhouses, futuristic bathrooms, architectural marvels and sky-high urinals.

Among the hundred toilets featured, there's the aptly titled 'tundra toilet' in Canada, with nothing but a thin orange divider to separate the user's heinie from -80 C winds.

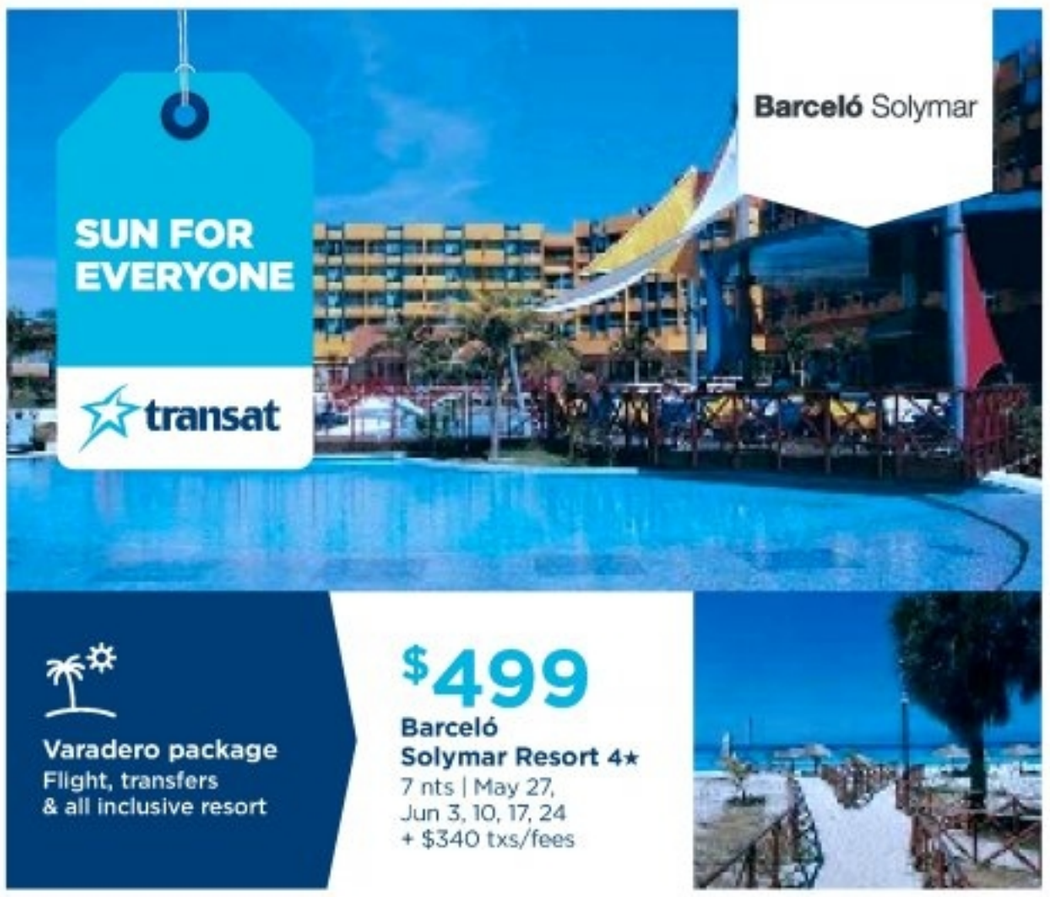
In Norway, the roar of cascading falls in the background drown out the sound of any tinkling at Huldefossen Waterfall near Fjorde, with thousands of gallons of water rushing over the 90 metre drop.

In Japan, home of arguably the most technologically-advanced loos, users have long been able to warm the seat and control the water pressure for bidet features with the touch of a few buttons.

But the more unique peeing experience is reserved for men, with the Sega-developed interactive urinal system dubbed the 'Toylet' at Joypolis amusement park in Tokyo.

In addition to testing their target skills, users can compare the strength of their stream against that of their neighbours.

And at Barafu Camp in Tanzania, users squat in makeshift outhouses perched on the edge of a cliff, 4,600 metres up the flanks of Mount Kilimanjaro. AFP



How to avoid the 'silent killer'

IS YOUR HOME SAFE?

Compliance with Ontario's carbon monoxide law is mandatory

Jacqueline Kovacs

For many young families, it's a familiar sound that requires attention but seldom spells life-threatening danger: a toddler crying in the night.

But for Kamloops, B.C. resident Monique Ruppel, having heard it at 3 a.m. one night in January, it was a different story when she went to see what was troubling her daughter, Celia.

Her husband, Kyle, also woke immediately and they both felt dizzy, nauseous and their eyes burned. When they reached the crib, Celia began vomiting. The family was in the throes of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, but because they didn't have a CO alarm, they hadn't been alerted to the danger.

Steps have been taken in recent years to make safeguards — the proper installation of CO alarms in residences — the law of the land. In Ontario it's been one year since residents have had to comply with the Hawkins-Gignac law, which mandates a CO alarm be installed outside any sleeping area in every residence. Al Suleman of the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management. has seen positive changes in that time.

"Ever since we've introduced the regulation and compliance has kicked in, almost on a weekly basis, we're seeing families holding their CO alarms and saying, 'It saved our lives,'" says Suleman.

Indeed, a recent IPSOS poll of 2,000 Canadians found that 94 per cent of Ontario residents say they have at least one CO alarm, although the pollster admits that number is high because no one likes to admit they are breaking the law. In the rest of the country, though, awareness is lagging.

It's statistics like those that keep Suleman and John Gignac, a former fire fighter who was the driving force behind the Hawkins-Gignac Law, busy campaigning and raising awareness about the dangers of CO across Canada.

COMPLIANCE

IPSOS poll: Percentage of Canadian households claiming to have at least 1 CO alarm.

- Ontario – 94%
- British Columbia – 85%
- Alberta – 78%
- Saskatchewan – 77%
- Manitoba – 77%
- Quebec – 70%
- Atlantic Provinces – 69%

John Gignac rallies for CO alarm legislation in New Brunswick, as Fire Marshall Douglas Browne looks on. SAFEATHOME.COM

STAY SAFE

Symptoms of CO poisoning

The symptoms of carbon monoxide exposure resemble the flu without the fever, including nausea or vomiting, dizziness, shortness of breath and loss of consciousness

Samantha Hoffmann, Public Fire and Life Safety Officer for the City of Barrie, Ont., suggests seeing your family doctor as soon as possible and getting a blood test if you suspect CO poisoning. Both actions are crucial because, left unchecked, CO poisoning can lead to muscle atrophy, neurological damage and death as the toxic gas replaces the oxygen in your blood. "You're in trouble if you're exposed to a lot of CO in a short period of time or if you're exposed to a little bit over a long period of time," says Hoffmann.

Protect your family from danger with a CO alarm. CONTRIBUTED

CO alarm basics

Samantha Hoffmann, Public Fire and Life Safety Officer for the City of Barrie, Ont., answers three CO alarm FAQs.

Q: Where do I install my CO alarm?

A: You need to have a CO alarm outside any area where people are sleeping. If you only have bedrooms on the top floor of your home, the minimum is you need to have a CO alarm outside those bedrooms.

If your CO alarm is located far away from your bedroom, the alarm will not wake you up.

Q: How do I maintain my CO alarm?

A: You need to clean it a few times a year and make sure it's in a well-ventilated area. Plus, CO alarms do have to be replaced. People make a common mistake of thinking that as long as their alarms are hardwired into their homes, they are safe. You actually need to check expiry dates.

Q: What kind of CO alarm should I get?

A: There are worry-free alarms that are solely lithium-battery powered, as well as hardwired models with lithium-battery powered backup. If you have hardwired alarms, always replace them with hardwired alarms.

Samantha Hoffmann, Public Fire and Life Safety Officer for the City of Barrie, Ont. CONTRIBUTED

metro SPORTS

If the Cavaliers' opening-round series against Detroit isn't a sweep, Game 5 will bump a show planned by Justin Bieber in Cleveland

Back where they want to be

RAPTORS POST-SEASON PRIMER

Coach believes past playoff heartbreak will serve team well

Dwane Casey says the Toronto Raptors are a different team thanks to the lessons learned over two heartbreaking NBA playoff series.

That's why, when the bright lights of the post-season switch on, the coach believes his team will be ready.

"Everybody talks about 'Oh you got swept, you got whupped last year in the playoffs.' Yeah, we did. But the experience factor was huge," Casey said. "I always say you've got to go through something to get to where you want to go. Last year was our something."

The Raptors begin their third consecutive playoff appearance Saturday against the visiting Indiana Pacers. Toronto took Brooklyn to seven games in a thrilling series two seasons ago, and then were dispatched by Washington in four straight last year.

From the referees' calls to the ear-splitting roar of the Air Canada Centre crowd, they were like pages in a playoff textbook, and the players, Casey said, are the wiser for it.

"They get there and they've seen it," Casey said. "All at once you get double-teamed or your shot doesn't fall, and you don't let it affect you as much as you did last year. There's nothing new they're going to throw at you that you haven't seen, so that experience is huge. The intensity of the game is not going to bother you."

> **We're the No. 2 team in the Eastern Conference; we feel like we should have a premiere time slot.**
>
> Dwane Casey, whose Raptors open the playoffs at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday

The Raptors roll into the post-season riding a record-setting season that saw them win a franchise-best 56 games, including a team-high 32 at home.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SKED SCORN

One of the media conglomerates that owns part of the Toronto Raptors is at least complicit in the team being stuck with an unenviable starting time for Game 1 of its playoff series, a tip off coach Dwane Casey suggests speaks to a lack of respect for the 56-win team.

Sportsnet, which is a part-owner of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, will broadcast Game 1 against the Indiana Pacers at 12:30 p.m. Saturday on its two main networks.

It will be a television lead-in to — and take away any competition from — a 4 p.m. Blue Jays game in Boston.

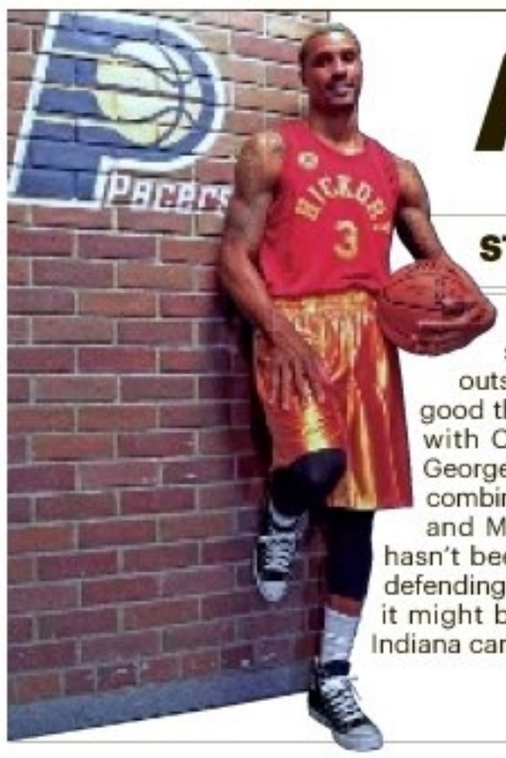
The league did also schedule the defending champion Golden State Warriors for a 12:30 p.m. Saturday start to fit with Eastern time zone requirements, suggesting it's not an anti-Toronto bias at all.

A spokesperson with Sportsnet denied the network had any role in the scheduling.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The first-round series could pivot on performances from Pacers forward Paul George and Raptors all-star point guard Kyle Lowry. Game 1 goes at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Air Canada Centre. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Appraising the Pacers



STRENGTH

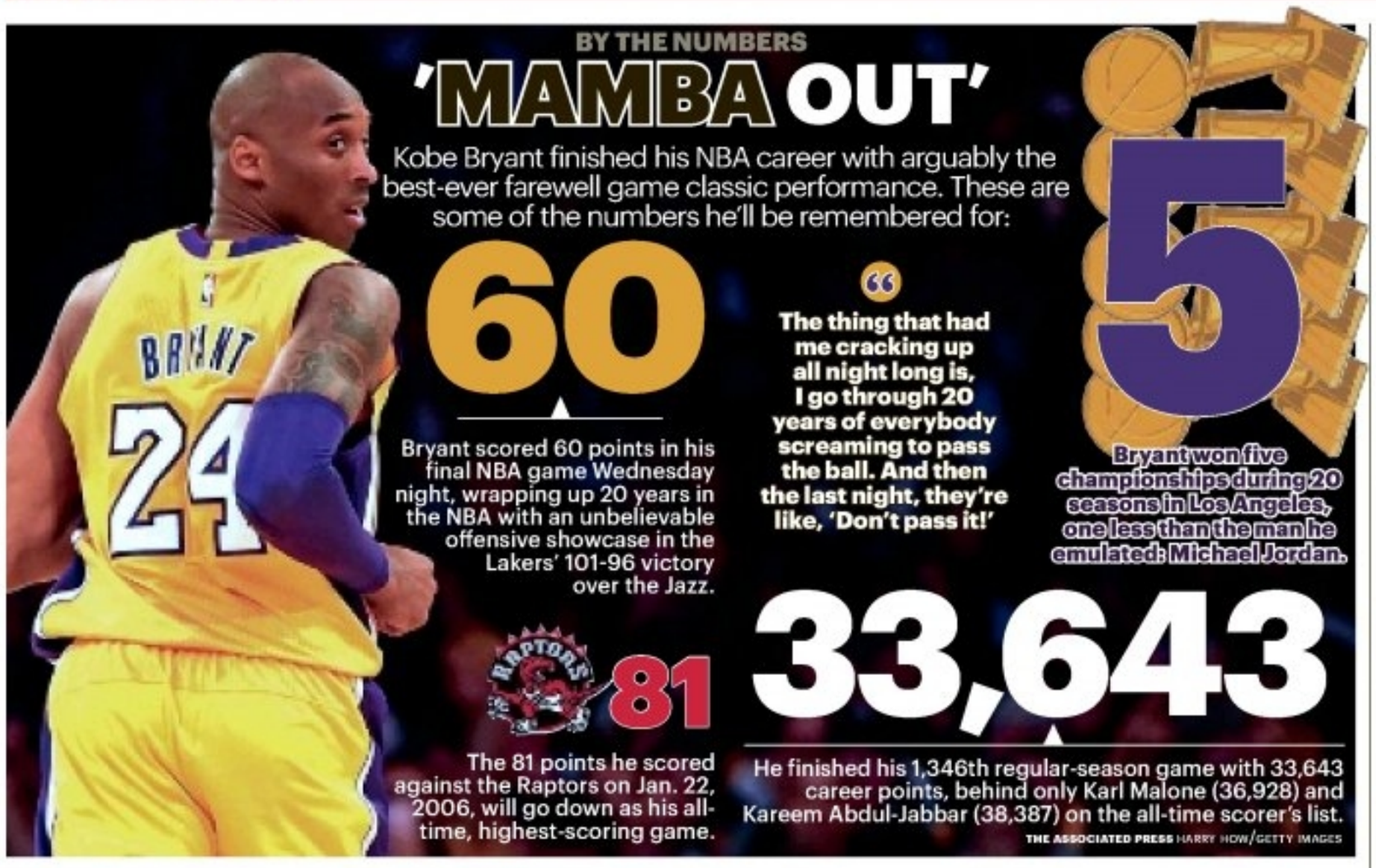
The Pacers can score in a variety of outside ways, they have good three-point shooting with C.J. Miles and Paul George, plus the backcourt combination of **George Hill** and Monta Ellis. Toronto hasn't been among the best defending the three-point line; it might be a weakness that Indiana can exploit.

WEAKNESS

The Pacers are neither big nor tough nor strong. Ian Mahinmi is OK but he's not a major shot-blocking threat or a rim protector. The Pacers also don't rebound well; **Bismack Biyombo** had 25 rebounds in a game against them earlier this season. Second-shot opportunities for Toronto will be a key.

INTANGIBLES

They used to announce before Pacers games that "in 49 states, basketball is a sport; in Indiana, it's a religion." If tradition was to decide this series, the Pacers would have it over the Raptors. Of course, the game is still played on the court. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



3rd stringer plays hero

NHL PLAYOFFS

Zatkoff steps up for Pens with injuries to Fleury, Murray

It would have been easy for Jeff Zatkoff to go through the motions. Nobody would have blamed him really.

Bumped out of the Pittsburgh Penguins backup goaltender spot by rookie Matt Murray over the winter, Zatkoff spent the last six weeks of the regular season a healthy scratch, arguably the two most dreaded words in hockey.

It's not in Zatkoff's easygoing nature to complain. So he buried himself in his work, spending copious amounts of time with goaltending coach Mike Bales and trying to stay positive while serving as one of the team's resident jokesters.

"I like to add that lightheartedness," Zatkoff said. "I wouldn't say it affected my game."

Not in the slightest. When injuries to Marc-Andre Fleury and Murray forced the Penguins to go with their little-used third option, Zatkoff responded with the finest moment of his brief career, turning aside 35 shots in a 5-2 win over the New York Rangers on Wednesday night that gave Pittsburgh a 1-0 lead in the best-of-seven Eastern Conference quarter-finals.

INJURIES
Goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury (concussion) and centre Evgeni Malkin (upper body) are hopeful they can both return for Game 2 Saturday.

The murmur that greeted his arrival on the ice in place of Fleury before the opening faceoff morphed into chants of his name in the final minutes. Surreal territory for a 28-year-old rendered an afterthought during the Penguins' blistering run to end the regular season.

"It definitely sent chills through me a little bit," Zatkoff said. "It's exciting. That's why you play the game. It's fun getting the job done at home in front of your fans. It's a special moment, one I'll remember for sure."

One that resonated with the man he stood in for. Fleury, still recovering from a concussion suffered on March 31, watched Zatkoff's performance from the rafters, marvelling at his teammate's resiliency.

"That was awesome, very happy for him," Fleury said on Thursday.

"He's such a great teammate. Has been all year. Been put in tough situations. I love the way he responded."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Go to metronews.ca for additional NHL playoff coverage

NBA

Nothing but net for W's in 73rd victory

Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors took their last shot at Michael Jordan and history and they swished it — for 73.

Down to their final chance at the record, the Warriors became the first team in the NBA to win 73 games in the regular season, beating the Memphis Grizzlies 125-104 Wednesday night. It broke what many considered an unmatchable mark set 20 years ago by Jordan's Chicago Bulls — oh, and Golden State coach Steve Kerr, too.

"I want to congratulate the Warriors on their amazing season," Jordan said in a statement. "The game of basketball is always evolving and records are made to be broken. The Warriors have been a lot of fun to watch and I look forward to seeing what they do in the playoffs."

Curry achieved yet another shooting milestone, becoming the first player to make 400 three-pointers in a season by knocking down 10 from long range on the way to 46 points and 402 total threes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Putin: Meldonium not a PED

Russian President Vladimir Putin waded into the debate over meldonium on Thursday, saying the banned substance should not be considered a performance-enhancing drug.

There have been at least 172 failed drug tests for meldonium worldwide since the Latvian-made heart-drug was banned in 2016. Russian athletes — including tennis star Maria Sharapova — make up the largest contingent of those who have tested positive.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Titans deal top pick to Rams

The Tennessee Titans have traded the No. 1 overall selection to the Los Angeles Rams.

In a deal announced Thursday, Tennessee swaps the top pick in this month's NFL draft to the Rams along with its choices in the fourth and sixth rounds. The Rams will give the Titans their first-round pick (No. 15 overall) along with two second-round selections and their third-rounder. The Titans also get the Rams' first- and third-round round picks in 2017. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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EUROPA LEAGUE

Dramatic comeback for Reds

What the Europa League lacks in glamour it more than made up for in late drama on Thursday. Sevilla's pursuit of a hat trick of titles was kept alive with a shootout success and Liverpool reached the semifinals through a stoppage-time winner.

Shakhtar Donetsk and Villarreal joined Liverpool in scoring four goals in their quarter-final second-leg wins, but the English Premier League club needed every one of them to complete an exhilarating 4-3 comeback against Borussia Dortmund.

Liverpool's Dejan Lovren, left, and head coach Jurgen Klopp THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I can't explain," Dortmund coach Thomas Tuchel said afterwards. "It was not logical."

Liverpool was facing elimination on away goals until Dejan Lovren's header earned a 5-4 aggregate win on an epic Anfield night to give manager Jurgen Klopp a victory to savour against his former club.

Like Liverpool, Sevilla is relying on winning the Europa League to return to the continent's elite competition.

The tables were turned on Sevilla after winning 2-1 at Athletic Bilbao last week, with its Spanish rival winning the return leg 2-1 to force the game into extra time and a shootout. Sevilla scored all five penalties to win 5-4. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE French Toast Nuggets Stuffed with Lemon Ricotta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This cheesy French toast with its subtle hit of lemon could be a unique weekend brunch but we think what really makes it special is when we call it dinner.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

Ingredients
For the French Toast:
- 1 multi-grain baguette loaf
- 5 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon real vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon all spice
- butter
- 1 pint blueberries

For the Ricotta Filling:
- 1/2 cup ricotta cheese
- zest and juice of 1/2 lemon
- 2 teaspoons sugar

Directions

1. Slice baguette into 1-inch pieces and then cut a pocket horizontally through the side into the centre of the slice. In a mixing bowl, whisk eggs, milk, vanilla, cinnamon and all spice. In a separate bowl, mix the ricotta, zest, juice and sugar.

2. Using a teaspoon, fill the pocket of each slice of baguette then place pieces into a 8x8 inch baking pan and pour the egg mixture over the bread. Allow the bread to soak for 10 minutes.

3. In a large skillet, melt the butter over medium heat then lay down your soaked baguette pieces. Allow each side to cook until golden brown, about 3 to 5 minutes each side. Repeat until you've completed all the slices. Serve with maple syrup

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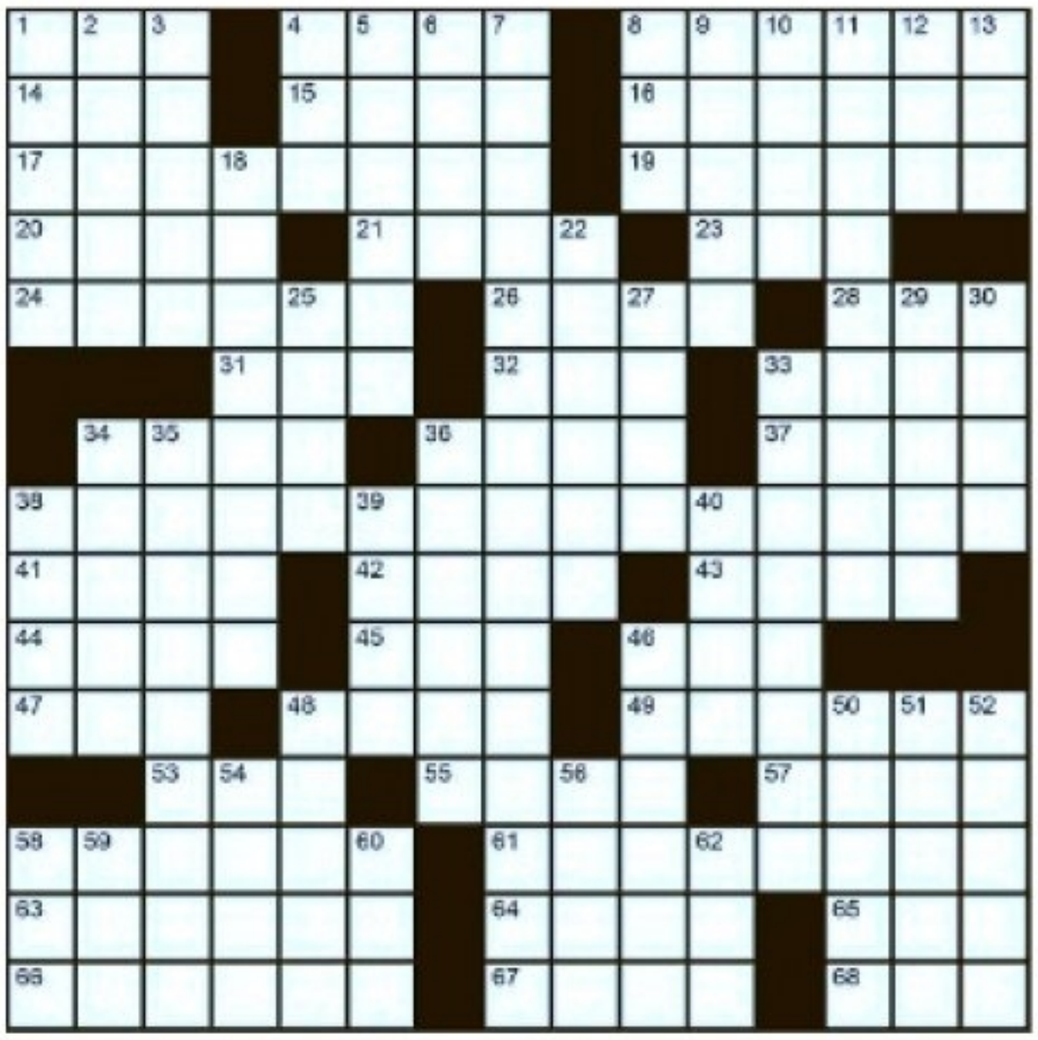
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Canadian screenwriter/actress Ms. Vardalos
4. Soup's holder
8. Christie __-O (Canadian cookie brand)
14. Kingston's prov.
15. __ mortals
16. Sign up
17. Bit of info relayed by the anchor to the viewers: 2 wds.
19. Latin for 'and others': 2 wds.
20. Colourful fish
21. Dial
23. Global currency org.
24. Missed baseball swing
26. 1994 Jodie Foster movie
28. Initials-sharers of Apollo's portrayer in "Rocky" (1976)
31. '80s Pres. monogram
32. Ms. Zadora
33. Screen's spotted-sub sound
34. Prefix to 'phobia' (Fear of heights)
36. Sty cry
37. Govern
38. Asparagus, for one: 2 wds.
41. Choice, briefly
42. NBA officials
43. Meow ...meanly
44. Hairstyle
45. MLB's Diamondbacks, on scoreboards
46. Bilk
47. Director Mr. Lee
48. Nero's 2550
49. Destroyed
53. Farming feed
55. Skin care company
57. Roof's overhang
58. Acadian songstress Edith
61. Face-to-face: 2 wds.
63. Motto
64. Haves and have-__
65. Commuter's purchase [abbr.]
66. Titanic-survivors-rescuer Carpathia was a steamship of what ocean liner company?
67. Wordlessly exclaim "Oh, my goodness!"
68. Yeah

DOWN
1. Taboos
2. Awkward
3. Battling: 2 wds.
4. Fitness stat.
5. Dr. __ (Food empire which owns the desserts line by #18-Down, such as #7-Down ...while Smucker's owns #18-Down's marmalades)
6. Songbird sort
7. Prepare-it-at-home dessert product under the label at #18-Down: 3 wds.
8. Membership __
9. Up to
10. Apothecary
11. Canadian athlete Mike Weir's gear: 2 wds.
12. __ Lilly and Company
13. Old music high note
18. Originated-in-Toronto family company known for fruit spreads, as well as #7-Down
22. Human __ (Earth people)
25. Tae __ do
27. Place for a dock
29. Prince Harry's brother, fun-style
30. "Pursuit of the Graf __" (1956)
33. More masterminded
34. Galley garb
35. Flin Flon, Manitoba is right near this Saskatchewan town
36. Exaggerate
38. Furry friends gr.
39. 'Tele' suffix
40. Archaic pronoun
46. Vatican vaults
48. Complaint to an Otologist, "___ hurts, Doc."
50. Hit off 1986's 'Control'
51. Call forth
52. Mishaps fixed at garages
54. Aquatic organism
56. Old World buffalo
58. Grad letters
59. Arctic knife
60. Boxing bout div.
62. Sixth sense, shortly

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
TGIF! This is a lovely day to play and enjoy the company of others. Sports events, social outings, playful activities with children and romantic rendezvous will please you. Have fun!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will enjoy entertaining at home today because it's a feel-good day and your focus is on home and family. A conversation with a parent could be significant.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will love schmoozing with everyone today. People are in the mood to party — and hey, it's Friday! This is also a strong day for those who write, sell, market, teach and act.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Business and commerce are favored today. Not only will you enjoy financial transactions, you also will enjoy shopping, especially for clothes that give you status.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today the Moon is in your sign, which means you have a bit of good luck. (It's an edge that you have over all the other signs.) Enjoy parties, schmoozing and romance!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Gifts, goodies and favors from others will come your way at this time. Today, and indeed, the week ahead, is an excellent time to negotiate loans and mortgages.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
What a wonderful day to enjoy the company of close friends and partners! The world is in party mode, and you are dressed and ready to go! (You are a social sign.)

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Personal details about your private life might be made public today. Hopefully, this is because you are receiving recognition for your achievements.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Do something different today! Shake it up a little. Travel if you can, or go someplace you've never been before, even if it's an exotic, ethnic restaurant.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a strong day for business discussions, especially regarding inheritances, insurance issues and shared property.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Because the Moon is opposite your sign today, you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others. This simply requires patience, tolerance and some friendly accommodation.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Although you are in party mode, nevertheless, you can accomplish a lot at work today. Just remind yourself that if you work hard, then you can party hard!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

			1	6	4			
		7				6		
		5				9		
	1	3	7	4	9	8	2	
	9						6	
	5			1			3	
	3			2			9	
	2						7	
		4	3	9	6	5		

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9	4	7	6	3	8	5	2	1
3	8	1	2	5	7	9	6	4
5	6	2	4	1	9	8	3	7
4	5	6	1	7	2	3	9	8
7	9	3	5	8	4	2	1	6
1	2	8	3	9	6	7	4	5
2	3	5	8	6	1	4	7	9
6	7	4	9	2	5	1	8	3
8	1	9	7	4	3	6	5	2

APOLOGIES

No, your eyes were not fooling you yesterday. Due to a production error on our part, the wrong crossword clues ran on the Play page in some of our cities. Above you will find the correct clues and puzzle grid.

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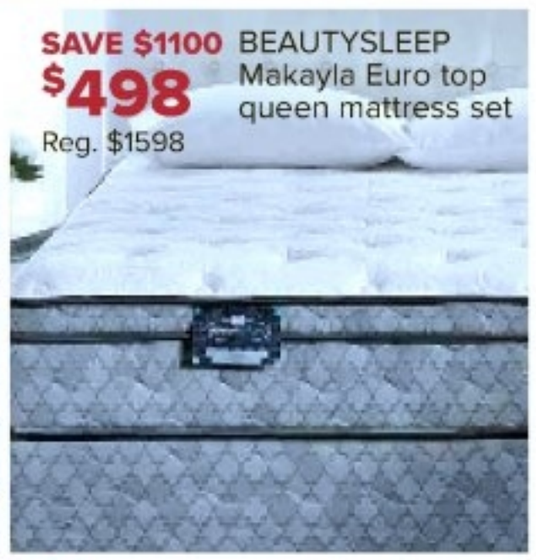

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